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ANCHORAGE, ALASKA
AO No. 2004-60

AN ORDINANCE OF THE ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY AMENDING
ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 21.90, UTILITY DISTRIBUTION
FACILITIES, SECTION 21.90.030, VARIANCES, AND SECTION 21.90.070,
NONCONFORMING OVERHEAD LINES, TO AUTHORIZE THE DIRECTOR OF THE
OFFICE OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TO GRANT
VARIANCES, TO REQUIRE A UTILITY OWNING POLES TO EXPEND TWO
PERCENT OF ITS GROSS ANNUAL RETAIL REVENUES FROM SALES WITHIN
THE MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE TO REMOVE POLES SUPPORTING
NONCONFORMING OVERHEAD UTILITY LINES AND PLACE THE LINES
UNDERGROUND, AND TO REQUIRE PLACEMENT OF NEW SERVICE LINES
UNDERGROUND.
AN ORDINANCE OF THE ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY AMENDING ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 21.90, UTILITY DISTRIBUTION FACILITIES, SECTION 21.90.030, VARIANCES, SECTION 21.90.060, DESIGNATION OF TARGET AREAS, TO PROVIDE FOR A FIVE-YEAR PLAN DESIGNATING TARGET AREAS, AND SECTION 21.90.070, NONCONFORMING OVERHEAD LINES, TO AUTHORIZE THE DIRECTOR OF THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT TO GRANT VARIANCES, TO REQUIRE A UTILITY OWNING POLES TO EXPEND AT LEAST TWO PERCENT OF ITS GROSS ANNUAL RETAIL REVENUES FROM SALES WITHIN THE MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE, TO REMOVE POLES SUPPORTING NONCONFORMING OVERHEAD UTILITY LINES AND PLACE THE LINES UNDERGROUND, AND TO REQUIRE PLACEMENT OF NEW SERVICE LINES UNDERGROUND.
The Ordinance

• 2% of electric utility revenue shall be spent towards burial of overhead lines.
  • This equates to several million dollars each year.
• Other utility lines shall be buried at the same time
• Other utilities shall not be required to spend 2% of their revenue towards burial.
  • Telecom companies have far less revenue for burying lines.
• Ownership of the pole falls to the next highest line on the pole.
The Problem (Old Seward)

Make this...

Without getting this...

Look like this...
1. Stop work till a solution is created, while continuing to amass and dedicate funds
2. Get all the parties in the room to find the right path.
3. Assess the need and future of telecoms lines.
   1. Line moving to wireless communications.